

Funding for exchange visits in Europe

Cost Action ES0801 'The ocean chemistry of bioactive trace metals and paleoclimate proxies' has funds available for up to 6 scientists to visit and collaborate with other researchers on Short Term Scientific Missions (STSMs). These trips should involve training or exchange of analytical expertise in areas related to marine trace element and isotope chemistry.

Applications are welcome from those in any of the countries within this Action. Selection criteria will be based on scientific excellence, relevance to the goals of this COST action, feasibility of the study, and added value for applicants, especially for early career scientists. Decisions will also take into account gender and distribution over nations and topics. The deadline for applications is **5th Decemeber 2011**. The STSM should be completed by the end of May 2012.

STSMs are open to postgraduate students, post doctoral researchers and anyone employed in an institution of countries contributing to this COST Action. Visits can be to any laboratory in **another COST country within this action** and should last between 1 week and 3 months. The COST Action covers travel costs and a daily allowance of €60-90, but does not contribute to lab costs. The **maximum funds allocated are €2500**. For early career scientist (less than PhD +10 yrs) an application can be made for more than three months and the maximum funds allocated are €3600.

Guidelines for STSM applications:

There are three separate parts for this application, the scientific work plan, the on-line application and a 2 page CV.

Scientific Plan (no more than 2 pages 12 point font and size less than 1 Mb): This should outline the scientific rationale for the visit, what would be achieved during the visit, the transfer of knowledge back to your institution and justification for the choice of the host Institution. Please also provide a detailed breakdown of the budget. **Please note that for visits less than 3 months the maximum amount that can be applied for is € 2500**

The Applicant must also use the **online registration tool** (<https://www.cost.esf.org/index.php?id=91>). The following information is required on the registration form:

Applicant's title, name, work place, postal address, telephone and fax numbers, and email address;

Name, postal address, telephone, fax and email of the prospective host at the receiving institute;

The planned dates and length of stay. **The dates for the stay are definitive and cannot be changed/adapted once the application is submitted;**

The title of the planned STSM;

A short description of the proposed work plan (about 250 words a summary of the 2 page science plan);

A budget request with breakdown for the costs of the STSM **(the budget is definitive and cannot be changed/adapted once the application is submitted);**

Bank details of the applicant.

Once this application form is completed, a pdf will be sent to the applicant by e-mail.

Please send the pdf along with the Scientific Plan (2 pages), a CV (2 pages) and a letter/email from the host institution stating that they agree with the dates and the science proposed to: maeve.lohan@plymouth.ac.uk

If you require any further information please e-mail maeve.lohan@plymouth.ac.uk